On the first page of the specification under CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS, please amend the first paragraph to recite:

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/336,609, filed June 18, 1999, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/090,063, filed June 19, 1998 and is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/971,845, filed August 8, 1997; the entire disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

On the 26th page of the specification under Sequences of Oligonucleotides used, please amend the first full paragraph to recite:

4.5S probe (2nf): GGCACACGCGTCATCTGC (SEQ ID NO:9)
5S probe (66ng): CCACACTACCATCGGCGCT (SEQ ID NO:20)

On the 28th page of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph to recite:

Aliquots were thawed, 20% sodium dodecyl sulfate was added to a final concentration of 1.4% in a total volume of 15.6 µl, and tubes were heated at 130°C for 10 minutes. Tubes were removed to room temperature for several minutes, and hybridization mix was added to a final volume of 20 µl with the following final concentrations: 120 mM NaCl, 1 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.1 mM $ZnCl_2$, 22.5 mM Tris (pH 8), 22.5 mM boric acid, 0.5 mM aurin tricarboxylic acid, 8mM Na phosphate, and 50 nM of each of the alkaline phosphate-conjugated reporter probes, RP-1 (5'-alkaline phosphatase-GCUGCUUCCUUC (SEQ ID NO: 27); underlined bases represent 2'-O-methyl RNA nucleotides) and RP-2 (5'-alkaline phosphatase-GCUGCUUCCGUC (SEQ ID NO:14). These mixtures were warmed to 55°C for 10 minutes, then removed to room temperature and 4µl of loading buffer (50% glycerol, 0.2% xylene cyanole, 0.2% bromphenol blue) added. Half of each mixture was loaded onto a 5% polyacrylamide gel (89 mM Tris (pH 8.5), 27 mM phosphate buffer), made with 10µM of each of the following five acrydite-modified, 2'-O-methyl RNA capture probes, polymerized into the gel in a fashion similar to that described in Example III.

CP-1 5'-acrydite-TTTTTT-CGGACCUGACCUG (SEQ ID NO:15)
CP-2 5'-acrydite-TTTTTT-AGGACCUGACAUG (SEQ ID NO:16)
CP-3 5'-acrydite-TTTTTT-CGGACCUGACCAG (SEQ ID NO:17)
CP-4 5'-acrydite-TTTTTT-CGGACCUGACAAG (SEQ ID NO:18)
CP-5 5'-acrydite-TTTTTT-CGGAUCUGACACG (SEQ ID NO:19)

The gel was run at 30°C at 20 volts/cm for 30 minutes, rinsed in diethanolamine buffer (2.4 M diethanolamine, 1 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.1 mM $ZnCl_2$, pH 10) for 10 minutes, then AttoPhos™ chemiflourescent substrate (Boehringer-Mannheim) was added for 10 minutes. The reaction was